

persons partly employed on wood and using that material yearly to the value of \$554,000,000. In some instances, following the example of more experienced nations, premiums are given to those who plant certain areas with forest trees. Yet in the face of all these facts we, under the name of "protection," betray the public interests into the hands of a few monopolists, and condemn our people to pay large rewards for the too rapid destruction of our remaining forests. In considering these facts it is desirable to remember that under a free system of exchanges Canada would be paid for her lumber in the products of our labor.

#### PUBLIC OPINION ON TRADE WITH CANADA.

The value of an extension of trade with Canada is duly appreciated by all thoughtful commercial men. The National Board of Trade passed resolutions and petitioned Congress in its favor. The New York Chamber of Commerce regards it as "specially desirable, on political as well as economical grounds, that all unnecessary hindrances should be removed from the commercial intercourse between the United States and the great Dominion which borders our northern border for so many thousands of miles," and "strongly recommends the proper authorities at Washington to enter into such treaty stipulations whenever the Canadian authorities may be found ready to meet them on a basis of perfect fairness and equity." The boards of trade in Boston and Chicago, and many other similar associations, have earnestly expressed the same views. Various State Legislatures, notably that of New York, have passed resolutions to the same effect. Proof that the importance of the interests involved is fully appreciated, and of a willingness to negotiate, abounds in Canada.

#### CANADA WILLING TO NEGOTIATE.

In 1873 the Dominion board of trade presented a memorial to Earl Dufferin, the governor-general of the Dominion, expressing a "sincere and cordial desire" that he would "be pleased to make such representations to the imperial government as will procure the appointment of a commission to meet and confer with a similar commission on the part of the Government of the United States, (if such commission has been or shall be appointed,) for the purpose of framing and negotiating such a treaty of reciprocal trade as will be for the mutual advantage and benefit of the trade and commerce of the Dominion of Canada and the United States." The Canadian minister of customs, the privy council, and the governor-general fully concurred in these views, and the governor, in council, formally promised that "should the Government of the United States comply with the wishes expressed by the National Board of Trade, the subject will receive the fullest consideration of the government of Canada." There is good reason for believing that no change has been made in their views.